OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : L - Mr. George H. Aldrich DATE: May 5, 1969

FROM : L/C - Ernest L. Kerley

SUBJECT: Distribution of funds received from the Government of Israel in settlement of the U.S.S. Liberty personal injury claims.

DISCUSSION

On March 28, 1969 Embassy Tel Aviv presented claims on behalf of 164 members of the crew of the U.S.S. Liberty who were injured in the attack on that vessel by Israeli air and naval units of June 8, 1967. The claims totalled $3,452,275. Also presented were United States Government claims for $92,437 for the cost of providing medical services to the injured men and for $21,745 for the cost of reimbursing the crew members for damaged or destroyed personal property. On April 21, 1969 the Government of Israel indicated that it would pay $3,566,457 in settlement of these claims. Payment was received on April 28, 1969 and covered into the Treasury.

Attached is a list of personal injury claimants and the amounts claimed on their behalf. (TAB A) Each claimant has executed a Release expressing his agreement to the settlement of his claim against the Government of Israel for the amount indicated. The Secretary has delegated to the Legal Adviser and Deputy Legal Adviser the authority to authorize and certify payment of international claims by the Department of the Treasury. (TAB B) The authority of the Secretary is granted by the Act of September 27, 1896 (31 U.S.C. 547). (TAB C)

Arrangements for the disposition of the funds received in the medical expenses and personal property claims will be dealt with separately.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [illegible] DATE 1/10/83
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5010-106

RECOMMENDATION

That you authorize and certify payment from the funds deposited in the Department of the Treasury to the persons indicated in the attached exhibit for the amounts stated therein.

Approved George H. Aldrich

Date May 6, 1969

Attachments:
As stated

L:L/C:ELKerley:cdj:5/5/69

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(489)

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20370

Copy to DoD

IN REPLY REFER TO
JAG:142:amb

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Mr. Ernest L. Kerley
Assistant Legal Adviser
Office of Assistant Legal Adviser for
International Claims, Room 5421
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20525

Re: Claims against Israeli Government

Dear Mr. Kerley:

This is in reference to your telephone conversation with Commander Richard C. Smith of this office on 5 May 1969.

It is suggested that the money recovered by the Department of State from the Government of Israel for damage to USS LIBERTY, damage occurring as a result of medical expenses provided injured personnel and for costs of reimbursement for damaged personal property which occurred on 7 June 1967 be made payable to Treasurer of the United States and forwarded to the U.S. Navy Regional Finance Center, Washington, D.C. 20390, in compliance with 31 USC 484.

Sincerely yours,

L. O. LYNCH
Captain, JAGC, U. S. Navy
Acting Deputy Assistant JAG
(Litigation and Claims)

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